

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**HEART HOMING PEPTIDES AND METHODS OF USING SAME**

The present invention provides a heart homing peptide that contains the amino acid sequence GGGVFWQ (SEQ ID NO: 2); HGRVRPH (SEQ ID NO: 3); VVLVTSS (SEQ ID NO: 4); CLHRGNSC (SEQ ID NO: 9); or CRSWNKADNRSC (SEQ ID NO: 10) and further provides conjugates in which a heart homing peptide is linked to a moiety such as a therapeutic agent. The conjugates of the invention are useful for treating cardiovascular diseases such as atherosclerosis and restenosis.

DRAFTING & DESIGN